

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 2 through 24 without prejudice. Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

B1 1. (Amended) A targeted therapeutic delivery system for the controlled delivery of a therapeutic compound to a region of a patient comprising, in combination with a therapeutic compound, stabilized lipid microspheres encapsulating a gas or gaseous precursor and an oil.

Please add new Claims 47-59 as follows:

~~47. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said gas or gaseous precursor is selected from the group consisting of fluorine, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, and perfluoroethers.~~

B2 48. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said lipid is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids; lysolipids; phosphatidylcholines; phosphatidylethanolamines; phosphatidylserine; phosphatidylglycerol; phosphatidylinositol; sphingolipids; sphingomyelin; glycolipids; ganglioside GM1; ganglioside GM2; glucolipids; sulfatides; glycosphingolipids; phosphatidic acids; lipids bearing sulfonated mono-, di-, oligo- or polysaccharides; lipids with ether and ester-linked fatty acids; polymerized lipids; cardiolipin; phospholipids with short chain fatty acids of 6-8 carbons in length; synthetic phospholipids with asymmetric acyl chains; 6-(5-cholesten-3 β -yloxy)-1-thio- β -D-galactopyranoside; digalactosyldiglyceride; and lipids bearing a covalently bound polymer.

49. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said lipid comprises at least one phosphatidylcholine, at least one phosphatidylethanolamine, and at least one phosphatidic acid.

50. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 49 wherein said phosphatidylcholine is selected from the group consisting of dioleoylphosphatidylcholine, dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine, and distearoylphosphatidylcholine; said phosphatidylethanolamine is selected from the group consisting of dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine-PEG 5,000, dioleoylphosphatidylethanolamine, and N-succinyl-dioleoyl-phosphatidylethanolamine; and said phosphatidic acid is dipalmitoylphosphatidic acid.

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51. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said oil is selected from the group consisting of silicone oil, cod liver oil, mineral oil, plant oil, oil comprising fluorinated triglycerides, biocompatible saturated fatty acids, biocompatible unsaturated fatty acids, biocompatible partially hydrogenated fatty acids, silicon-based oils, and synthetic oils.

52. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 51 wherein said plant oil is selected from the group consisting of peanut oil, canola oil, olive oil, safflower oil, corn oil, and mazola oil.

53. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 51 wherein said silicon-based oil is selected from the group consisting of vinyl-terminated fluids, hydride terminated fluids, silanol terminated fluids, amino terminated fluids, epoxy terminated fluids, carbinol terminated

fluids, mercapto-modified silicon fluid, saturated silicon oil, unsaturated silicon oil, and aryl-alkyl substituted silicon oil.

54. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 51 wherein said synthetic oil is selected from the group consisting of saturated chains of C_{12} to C_{24} fatty acids and unsaturated chains of C_{12} to C_{24} fatty acids.

55. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 51 wherein said synthetic oil is selected from the group consisting of triolein, trimyristin, triacetin, tripalmitin, tristearin, tributyrin, glyceryl monoctanoate, and glyceryl monostearate.

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56. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said therapeutic compound is attached to the surface of said microspheres.

57. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said therapeutic compound is encapsulated in said microspheres.

58. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 further comprising a targeting ligand.

59. (New) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said therapeutic compound is dissolved in said oil.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 47-59 are presented. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 47-59 have been added, and Claims 2-24 have been canceled.